Proclamation

City of Oneida - Office of the Mayor

WHEREAS, the City of Oneida proudly supports our nation's military veterans and honors the men and women who have served—and continue to serve—with courage and distinction in the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart is the nation's oldest military decoration still awarded, established by General George Washington in 1782 as the Badge of Military Merit. It is presented to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who have been wounded or made the ultimate sacrifice in combat against an enemy of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Military Order of the Purple Heart promotes patriotism, supports combat-wounded veterans and their families, advocates for veterans, and works to ensure the sacrifices of Purple Heart recipients are never forgotten; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oneida is honored to recognize the courage, sacrifice, and selfless service of all Purple Heart recipients who have defended our nation and its freedoms;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Rossi, Mayor of the City of Oneida, do hereby proclaim August 18, 2026, as

"PURPLE HEART DAY"

in the City of Oneida and encourage all residents to join in honoring the courageous men and women who have been awarded the Purple Heart. Let us remember their sacrifices, recognize their unwavering dedication to our nation, and express our enduring gratitude for their service to our country.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affix the official seal of the City of Oneida on this 18th day of August, 2026.

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Mayor Rick Rossi